



Learn Greek, Why?

Why do most Greek Australians, have their children learn some Greek. Why do they want them to know Greek? What is the reason?

One of the ways human beings differ from the other species is that they have developed what is called a 'culture' ...This involves the process of thought not just instinct.

Individuals that have not received a cultural upbringing find themselves alone in society, having to pay the price of loneliness with its consequences.

For youth to obtain their culture it is obviously necessary to keep with one's line of origin and to learn the language of their culture of origin.

Without it they cannot connect with their line of origin to have access to their culture.

Away from their roots, from their set of values and customs, they would be alone and lonely in society, without an identity.

The real risk is if they end up with the culture of the mob with low values and spiritual views.

"Mob" culture embraces the most popular beliefs and includes what is in fashion at the time.

But culture cannot be the same as fashion. Our beliefs and values should not be changed from time to time, alongside other changes such as the style of our hair, or the size of

our tie.

In our case, obviously to enable contact with our line of origin the language is Greek. This then is the reason why we want our children to learn Greek.

How do the children learn the Greek language?

It used to be from home and school.

Nowadays mainly it is left to the school and occasionally to the home if it is spoken.

Contributing factors are how much practice they get. The amount of experience will depend on the opportunities they receive.

Here we will deviate and mention what Scouting does.

At the Scout movement the children learn new things, make new friends; they are part of a team and have lots of fun, while the ultimate aim is the formation of Character.

The Scouting program involves opportunity for life outdoors and contact with nature, adventure, training of body and mind, learning many valuable things useful all their life, and participation in activities to help fellow man - the "good turn", leading to understanding the concept of brotherhood of mankind. SCOUTING is not only the oldest youth organisation but the largest worldwide movement.

With this introduction I will include the remark that for Greek Australian children, if there is anything worthwhile doing after school, it is participation in the Greek Scout units. The participation in "Scouting Plus".

"Scouting" in multicultural Australia is the part involving the Scouting Aims with its unique system and methods.

"Plus" is what we call the addition

of our "Parallel Greek Orthodox Cultural Program" with its SPECIAL BENEFITS.

The aims of Scouting are our aims. We are fortunate to be part of the Australian Scouts Association or "SCOUTS AUSTRALIA", for their valuable assistance in training our Leaders, for providing great camping facilities, and generally for the opportunity to participate in the Australian Scouting program and having access to International Scouting.

Our Patrons are the Governor General of Australia and our Archbishop.

We are under the Aegis of the G.O. Archdiocese of Australia which has supported us from the beginning and is encouraging us while recognising the value of our aims. Also we have a valuable ongoing connection with Soma Ellinon Proscopon (the Greek Scouts Association).

The SPECIAL BENEFITS at the Greek Scout Groups are derived from the inclusion of our "Parallel Greek Orthodox program" for the knowledge and practice of our Culture and the Greek language.

CONCLUSION:

While our children are developing into good future citizens of this great Australian Nation, and if we have a good representative number of Greek Australian Scouts, they will be an example to follow for those who are not members.

We live in a great country with freedom and democracy, full of prosperity for which our migrant forefathers have greatly contributed and we are continuing to contribute by following in their footsteps.

It is the ambition of every Leader to give the children the best possible weekly meetings and memorable excursions and other activities, as well as for each child to learn more and

reach the highest personal results in achieving badges and awards both at Scouts and at school.

For such good results already achieved in the short time the Greek Scouts have been active, in order to sustain the present activity and for further improvements in the future, our movement needs the participation of an increased number of volunteer Leaders.

We need some more dedicated persons to give a little or a lot of their time for the sake of the children, and to enable more of our youth to join.

Finally, like other similar organisations there is always the financial side of matters. It is not easy to provide such a wonderful program and to keep on improving it on the available funds.

IT IS NOT A SECRET THAT THE OBVIOUS SOLUTION IS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BY THOSE WHO ARE FORTUNATE TO BE IN THE POSITION TO BECOME SPONSORS.

Consider that no matter how little help you give; it will be better than none. Sometimes it may be what will make the difference between a MEDIOCRE ACTIVITY AND A FANTASTIC ONE FOR THE CHILDREN.

Get in touch and join "The Greek Scouts Team" as a YOUTH MEMBER or as an ADULT LEADER, or as a SUPPORTER, or be a Sponsor to help this most important Cause.

It is worth remembering that donations to the Scout movement are tax deductible.

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